

TRAFFIC BOARD MEETING 1002
MINUTES
Planning Conference Room, 4th Floor, City Hall
Thursday, January 8, 2015

OLD BUSINESS

Call to Order. Called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Jared Kraham, Executive Assistant to the Mayor.

Traffic Board Member Present: Jared Kraham, Executive Assistant to the Mayor; Bill Berg, Council person; William Yeager, Assistant Police Chief; Gary Holmes DPW Commissioner

Traffic Board Members Absent: None

Also Present: Katherine Davis, Principal Clerk; Cyndi Paddick, BTMS, Dave Petryszyn, BPD; William Lescault, BPD; Dan Correll, retired BPD Officer; Jennie Sherry, Planning

Approval of Minutes. Request to approve the minutes from Traffic Board Meeting 1001, held on Thursday, December 18, 2014

Moved by G. Holmes, seconded by B. Berg

Motion carried. (Vote 4-0-0)

Ayes: J. Kraham, B. Berg, G. Holmes, W. Yeager

Nays: None

Absent: None

Washington Street and Hawley Street – Intersection walk light. Mr. Holmes reported that a pedestrian walkway sign can be placed here and there is funding available for this project.

Motion to install four pedestrian walkway traffic signs at Washington and Hawley Streets.

Moved by G. Holmes, Seconded by B. Berg

Motion carried. (Vote 4-0-0)

Ayes: J. Kraham, B. Berg, G. Holmes, W. Yeager

Nays: None

Absent: None

Back-in Parking on Court Street. Ms. Paddick stated that according to many outside studies, back-in parking is safer than front-end angle parking. Mr. Kraham reported that Mayor David would like to keep this on the agenda until the parking study is completed. **Hold until study is complete.**

Leroy Street and Front Street Traffic Light. Traffic backups were occurring due to construction which has since stopped. There are no more problems at this intersection. **Item complete.**

Beethoven Street and Leroy Street Accidents. Assistant Chief Yeager stated that some time ago Councilman Mihalko wanted to have this intersection be changed to a 4-way stop. Mr. Correll reported that the amount of accidents at this intersection was so low; it does not warrant any changes at this time. **Item complete.**

Greenway Crossing-Court Street. Mr. Kraham suggested signage for now because the ballards are very expensive. If this doesn't work, it can be revisited at a later time. Ms. Paddick requested some type of commitment that the area in the tunnel be better maintained and perhaps a light can be installed. This way, people are less inclined to climb up the stairs and try to cross the street. Item was referred to Engineering. **Item complete.**

Front Street and Main Street Corner. Ms. Leslie Dahlgren posed a safety issue at the corner of Front and Main. There are three lanes approaching the Court Street Bridge, but there is no left turn arrow. She claims there are numerous “close-calls” due to confusion by drivers as to who has the right of way. People start to make their turn, while other cars continue going straight toward JC. It looks like there was an arrow there at one point, but it’s been covered over with a black shroud. Waiting for traffic counts from Ms. Paddick. **Hold until February meeting.**

Washington Street Redevelopment Project. Mr. Holmes reported that the sidewalk will be carried through the entranceway and will be constructed of sidewalk material. The standard back-up was increased to 24 feet.

Motion to approve plans as presented and allow for 2-hour metered parking in redevelopment area.

Moved by G. Holmes, seconded by B. Berg

Motion carried. (Vote 4-0-0)

Ayes: J. Kraham, B. Berg, G. Holmes, W. Yeager

Nays: None

Absent: None

12 Market Street. Councilman Motsavage’s neighbor at 12 Market Street stated there was no parking in front of his house years ago because the no parking sign from his house to the corner was on the other side of his driveway. The sign is currently between their property lines and there is room for one car in front of 12 Market Street. The problem is when it snows, the Town Of Dickinson residents have to take their cars off the street and they park in front of 12 Market Street. Is it possible to move the no parking here to corner sign closer to his driveway or on the other side of 12 Market Street? Traffic did not have a chance to look into this and will report in January. Traffic recommended the following:

“The Traffic Division received a request from First District Councilman Jerry Motsavage through Jared Kraham, Chairperson of the Traffic Board to review the No Parking Anytime Zone on the east side of Market Street. It is reported that Town of Dickinson residents park adjacent to the driveway at 12 Market Street, thus interfering with access to that driveway, especially when a parking ban goes into effect in the town during snow emergencies.

The Traffic Division upon responding to Market Street found a No Parking Anytime Zone posted on the east curb line of that street from about 20 feet north of the driveway at 12 Market Street to the town line. The 20 feet north of the driveway appears to be the area in question. The owner of that property, James Hranek, was contacted. He stated that he would like to have that No Parking Zone extended from its present location to a point south of his driveway for the reason stated above. He also stated that the intersection configuration of where Market Street meets Francis Street creates a blind area backing out of his driveway when vehicles park in that area.

The Market Street is a sparsely populated residential neighborhood with one business in the immediate area and across the street from that location, which has its own off street parking area. The Traffic Division therefore recommends that the Traffic Code be amended as follows:

Insert: Section 23 No Parking Anytime Zone:

Market Street – East Side

From the intersection with Francis Street to a point 90 feet south.”

Moved W. Yeager, seconded by B. Berg

Motion carried. (Vote 4-0-0)

Ayes: J. Kraham, B. Berg, G. Holmes, W. Yeager

Nays: None

Absent: None

59 Burr Avenue. Mr. William Cafferty is currently in the process of purchasing the duplex at 59 Burr Street within the next 6 months however, the driveway that is allotted for this house is in extremely bad shape. Over the years of neglect from the

current owner the driveway has practically vanished and looks more like a hill challenge than a means of parking your vehicle safely. Since the house is a duplex generally speaking, each household in today's times have 2 cars which makes a total of 4 just for this residence. Their only options have been to park on the street which we thought was legal considering that was what their landlord told them. As it turns out, it is not legal. They are requesting that the city reevaluate the given address to deem it suitable for additional on street parking or allow Mr. Cafferty and his fiancé to park on the street until they rebuild the driveway come spring time next year. They have already been ticketed 3 times in the past 2 months which totaled \$135. Mr. Correll reported that traffic met with the tenant and it is a personal issue, not a safety issue. **Item complete.**

East Frederick Street. Mr. Berg reported that Amrex Chemical, they would like an exemption from the alternate side parking because there is nowhere for their employees to park. Traffic will look into this and report back. **Hold until February meeting.**

West End Armory-alternate side parking. Mr. Kraham will contact West End Armory staff regarding the alternate side parking concerns.

Jackson Street. Traffic reported the following:

"The Traffic Division received a request from Sixth District Councilman John Matzo through Jared Kraham, Chairperson, Traffic Board to review the need of a traffic control signal at the intersection of Tompkins Street and Jackson Street. Upon requesting the Intersection Report from Police Records for the previous three years the Traffic Division observed that there were six traffic incidents reported at that location for the past three years:

2012 – 2 incidents. 2013 – 1 incident. 2014 – 3 incidents.

Of those incidents only three were related to that intersection (1 – Following too closely, 1- unsafe backing and 1 – failure to obey a traffic control device). The other three involved striking a parked vehicle, striking a dog and the third the motorist exchanged information before police arrival. Upon observing the traffic volume at that intersection the Traffic Division observed that Tompkins Street (NYS Route 7) as the main through fare. Jackson Street, a residential street, had a very light traffic flow. Tompkins Street also has traffic control devices at the intersection of Webster Street, the previous intersection just to its north, and at Conklin Avenue, three short intersections to it south. The Traffic Division upon reviewing The Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices finds no warrants for its need. However, with the low number of incidents, would its removal be detrimental to that intersection? Before any decision is made to remove or keep it, a six month deactivation and bagging of the device with a follow up study should be conducted. At the same time it would also be recommended that the intersection be posted as a two way stop intersection with Tompkins Street being the through street and Jackson Street being with stop signs for the east and west bound traffic."

Ms. Paddick will look at what the study results were. **Hold until February meeting.**

Vestal Avenue and Pennsylvania Avenue intersection. Mr. Holmes reported there was a new loop installed so it should be working. He will look into this and report back. **Hold until February meeting.**

Leroy Street and Oak Street Intersection. Mr. Berg reported that Councilwoman RENNIA receives a lot of calls about this intersection and that people would like to have the light re-installed. **Hold until February meeting.**

Adjournment. Motion to adjourn at 9:38 a.m.

Moved by B. Berg, seconded by W. Yeager

Motion carried. (Vote 4-0-0)

Ayes: J. Kraham, B. Berg, G. Holmes, W. Yeager

Nays: None

Absent: None